Comet Basics

Cookin' Up a Comet; The Incredible Edible Comet National Science Education Standards addressed:

Grades 5-8

Science as Inquiry:

Develop descriptions, explanations, predictions and models using evidence

Earth and Space Science

Earth in the Solar System

• The Earth is the third planet from the sun in a system that includes the moon, the sun, eight other planets and their moons, and smaller objects, such as asteroids and comets

AAAS Atlas Concept Map:

Grade 6-8

The Universe: The Solar System

...Other chunks of rock mixed with ice have long, off-center orbits that carry them close to the sun, where the sun's radiation (of light and particles) boils off frozen materials from their surfaces and pushes it into a long illuminated tail.

Famous Comets: Comet Research

National Science Education Standards addressed:

Grades 5-8

Earth and Space Science

Earth in the Solar System

• The Earth is the third planet from the sun in a system that includes the moon, the sun, eight other planets and their moons, and smaller objects, such as asteroids and comets

History and Nature of Science

Nature of Science

• Although all scientific ideas are tentative and subject to change and improvement in principle, for most major ideas in science, there is much experimental and observational confirmation. Scientists do and have changed their ideas about nature when they encounter new experimental evidence that does not match their existing explanations.

History of Science

• Many individuals have contributed to the traditions of science.

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McREL's Compendium:

Language Arts

Standard 4: Gathers and uses information for research purposes

Standard 7: Uses reading skills and strategies to understand and interpret a variety of informational texts

Grade 6-8

Benchmark 1. Uses reading skills and strategies to understand a variety of informational texts (e.g., electronic texts; textbooks; biographical sketches; directions; essays; primary source historical documents, including letters and diaries; print media, including editorials, news stories, periodicals, and magazines; consumer, workplace, and public documents, including catalogs, technical directions, procedures, and bus routes)

Standard 1: Uses the general skills and strategies of the writing process

Grade 6-8

Benchmark 7. Writes narrative accounts, such as short stories (e.g., engages the reader by establishing a context and otherwise developing reader interest; establishes a situation, plot, persona, point of view, setting, conflict, and resolution; develops complex characters; creates an organizational structure that balances and unifies all narrative aspects of the story; uses a range of strategies and literary devices such as dialogue, tension, suspense, figurative language, and specific narrative action such as movement, gestures, and expressions; revealsa specific theme)